

Oakland voters support ballot options

BY ROBIN D'ANGELO
STAFF WRITER

More than half of Oakland County voters chose to sustain the county's current public transportation system.

The Public Transportation Millage Renewal was approved by 65 percent of Oakland voters Tuesday, boosting the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) operating rate from .33 mills to .60 mills through 2005.

Wayne County voters approved the millage by 54 percent, and Macomb County voters by nearly 57 percent. The

The millage — 60 cents in taxes for every \$1,000 in taxable property value — is viewed as a stop-gap measure until plans for the Detroit Area Regional Transportation Authority are in place.

bus system covers 50 communities in Wayne and Oakland County, and includes all of Macomb County.

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plans for the Detroit Area Regional Transportation Authority are in place. DARTA will oversee SMART operations, as well as the Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority.

Revenue generated from the tax will help replace old buses and improve service for the elderly and disabled.

In addition to the SMART millage, Oakland County resi-

dents passed Proposal 02-1, the State Officers Compensation Commission, by nearly 76 percent, and Proposal 02-2, covering the investment of endowment funds for state parks.

Proposal 02-1 amends the state constitution regarding the SOCC, which sets the salaries of the governor, lieutenant governor, Supreme Court justices and members of the legislature.

The proposal requires state lawmakers approve by a 2/3 majority all SOCC salary and expense allowances that come before them.

Passage of Proposal 02-2 will increase parks and recreation spending throughout the state. It was approved by 65 percent of Oakland County voters.

The proposal removes constitutional restrictions on the investment of permanent and endowment funds.

CITY

FROM PAGE A1

Farmington has six precincts.

"The state projected about a 22 percent turnout," Cantrell said. "We had 38 percent. We wished it would be 50 or 60 percent."

In the 37th District State Representative race, Democrats Aldo Vagnozzi garnered 1,025 votes (81.03) and Charisse Heath, 240 votes (18.96).

On the Republican side, Valerie Knol received 581 votes (58.27); Terry Sever, 273 (27.38); and 140 (14.04) and three write-in votes.

In the Democratic Governor's race, Jennifer Granholm won the top slot with 829 votes (57.97), James Blanchard, 306 (21.40), David Bonior, 291 (20.35) and four write-in votes.

With Republicans, Dick Posthumus won 507 votes

(78.05), Joe Schwarz, 225 (21.78) and two write-in votes.

For Sixth Circuit Court Judge: Daniel Patrick O'Brien, 589 (18.41), James M. O'Reilly, 558 (17.44), Martha D. Anderson, 537 (16.78), John C. Brennan, 452 (14.13), Sarah N. Wilggen, 318 (9.94), Elias J. Escobedo, Jr., 230 (7.19), Russell G. Carniak, 194 (6.06), William J. Reisdorf, 131 (4.09), Frederick N. Blanchard, 101 (3.16), James R. Porritt, Jr. 86 (2.68) and four write-in votes.

All three proposals passed in Farmington:

■ State Officers Compensation Commission, yes, 1,810 (81.35) and no, 415 (18.65)

■ Endowment funds invested and increase parks and outdoor recreation spending, yes, 1,642 (72.37) and no, 627 (27.63)

■ Oakland County public transportation millage renewal, yes, 1,561 (66.40) and no 790 (33.60).

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BUSY

FROM PAGE A1

social worker in Highland Park. "The Governor is the next closest to President."

Clester, a fifth grade teacher in Detroit, concurred. "I'm concerned about the welfare of school children," she said. Tillman, a preschool teacher in Detroit who's certified to teach Headstart through eighth grade called Blanchard honest.

"Maybe he will support the teachers," Tillman said. Timothy and Amber Maguire of Farmington made a trip to Farmington City Hall in their white convertible, enjoying the pleasant evening.

Both supported Attorney General Jennifer Granholm. "I like the way she comes across," Timothy said. He supports her views on crime and prosecution. Amber said her husband keeps abreast of issues. She noted that Jeffrey Leib's letter to the Farmington Observer about his son Larry Leib's credentials clinched her vote for Leib as 47th District Court judge.

"I was impressed," Amber said.

Letters to the editor, in gen-

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"We might get as high as 45 percent with absenteees," said Jonel Carswell, chair for precinct. "Good weather helped. There's lots of interest in the Governor and district court races."

Carol Eve Hyska, Precinct 6 chair, said there were busy spurts between 8-9:30 a.m. and between 2-3 p.m.

"It's higher than expected," Hyska said. "We are expecting more tonight. There are highly contested offices."

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